CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF THE WEYERHAEUSER MARLBORO MILL NO. 3 EFFLUENT HOLDING BASIN, MARLBORO COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

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ABSTRACT

This study reports on an intensive cultural resources survey of an 87 acre tract in the western portion of Marlboro County, west of the town of Bennettsville, South Carolina. The work, conducted for Mr. Robert Hanley of RMT, Inc., is meant to assist the client, Weyerhaeuser Mill, in complying with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the regulations codified in 36CFR800.

The tract is to be used by the Weyerhaeuser Company for the construction of an effluent holding basin. The survey area is situated in the rear portion of the Weyerhaeuser Marlboro Mill off S-912. The western boundary is located along existing dirt roads, while much of the eastern boundary is a road that separates this proposed effluent holding basin from others that have already been constructed are currently in use. The survey area is composed of fallow cotton fields with a small area of hardwoods which surround a ditch separating two fields.

This survey was conducted to identify and assess archaeological and historical sites that may be in the project area. For this study an area of potential effect (APE) about 1.0 mile around the proposed tract was assumed. The proposed undertaking will require clearing along with the removal of soil to create the pond. There will likely be short-term construction impacts, including increased noise and dust levels, and increased construction related traffic. It should be noted that the area has already been affected by the current mill and several holding ponds, so it is unlikely that more long-term effects will occur beyond those already brought about from the operation of the mill.

Consultation with the S.C. Department of Archives and History revealed no properties in or near the survey area that have been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. An investigation of the archaeological site files at the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology identified three archaeological sites, 38ML36-38, within the APE. 38ML36 is a mid to late nineteenth century scatter with some prehistoric materials. This site was recommended not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. 38ML37 is a late nineteenth century to early twentieth century site with some Early Woodland components. This site is not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. 38ML38 is also a late nineteenth century to early twentieth century site with some prehistoric remains. This site, too, is not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

The archaeological survey of the tract incorporated shovel testing at 100-foot intervals on transects laid out at 100-foot intervals. All shovel test fill was screened through ¼-inch mesh and the shovel tests were backfilled at the completion of the study. A pedestrian survey was also completed due to the severe disturbance of soils. A total of 380 shovel tests were excavated along 37 transect lines. Eight additional tests were excavated in the site area.

As a result of these investigations, one historic/prehistoric site, 38ML279 was uncovered. This site is a historic domestic sites of an unknown date with a prehistoric component, but due to lack of integrity from intensive cultivation, and the inability to address significant research questions, the site is recommended not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places and no additional management activity is recommended pending the review of the State Historic Preservation Office and the lead federal agency.

A survey of public roads within a mile of the proposed undertaking was conducted in an effort to identify any architectural sites over 50 years old which also retained their integrity. No

such structures were found.

Finally, it is possible that archaeological remains may be encountered in the project area during clearing activities. Crews should be advised to report any discoveries of concentrations of artifacts (such as bottles, ceramics, or projectile points) or brick rubble to the project engineer, who should in turn report the material to the State Historic Preservation Office or to Chicora Foundation (the process of dealing with late discoveries is discussed in 36CFR800.13(b)(3)). No construction should take place in the vicinity of these late discoveries until they have been examined by an archaeologist and, if necessary, have been processed according to 36CFR800.13(b)(3).

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF FIGURES

INTRODUCTION

This investigation was conducted by Dr. Michael Trinkley of Chicora Foundation, Inc. for Mr. Robert Hanley of RMT, Inc. The work was conducted to assist the Weyerhaeuser Marlboro Mill comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the regulations codified in 36CFR800.

The project site consists of approximately 87 acres of land, located in the western portion of Marlboro County (Figure 1). The project is situated mostly in fallow fields, but also contains a small area of hardwoods.

The tract is intended to be used for an effluent holding basin. Landscape alteration, primarily clearing and the removal of the soil to create the pond will cause severe damage to the ground surface and any archaeological resources which may be present in the survey area.

Construction, operation, and maintenance of the basin may also have an impact on historic resources in the project area. The project will not directly effect any historic structures (since none are located on the survey parcel), but the completed facility may detract from the visual integrity of historic properties, creating what many consider discordant surroundings. As a result, this architectural survey uses an area of potential effect (APE) about 1.0 mile radius around the proposed survey tract. It should be noted, however, that the area is currently affected by the Weyerhaeuser Marlboro Mill.

This study, however, does **not** consider any future secondary impact of the project, including increased or expanded development of this portion of Marlboro County.

We were requested by Mr. Robert Hanley of RMT, Inc. to provide a proposal for the survey on July 19, 2002. A proposal was sent on July 24 with approval given on July 26. Investigations started shortly thereafter.

These investigations incorporated a review of the site files at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. As a result of that work, three sites (38ML36-38) were found in the 1.0 mile APE. 38ML36 is a mid to late nineteenth century scatter with minimal prehistoric remains. This site was recommended not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. 38ML37 is a late nineteenth century to early twentieth century site with some Early Woodland components. This site has been recommended not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. 38ML38 is also a late nineteenth century to early twentieth century site with some prehistoric remains, which has been recommended not eligible for inclusion on the National Register.

The South Carolina Department of Archives and History GIS was consulted to check for any NRHP buildings, districts, structures, sites, or objects in the study area. No NRHP sites were found within a mile of the survey. A 1978 Marlboro County Reconnaissance had been performed, but these records have only been recorded on a topographic map with no written record of the survey.

Archival and historical research was limited to a review of secondary sources available in the Chicora Foundation files.

The archaeological survey was conducted from July 31-August 2, 2002 by Mr. Tom Covington and Ms. Nicole Southerland under the direction of Dr. Michael Trinkley and revealed one sites, 38ML279, situated within the proposed project area. This site has both historic and prehistoric components, however none of the artifacts were diagnostic. Due to the intensive cultivation and logging in the area, the site is heavily damaged and does not retain integrity. It is also unlikely that this site is able to answer any significant research questions. Therefore, the site is recommended not eligible for inclusion on the

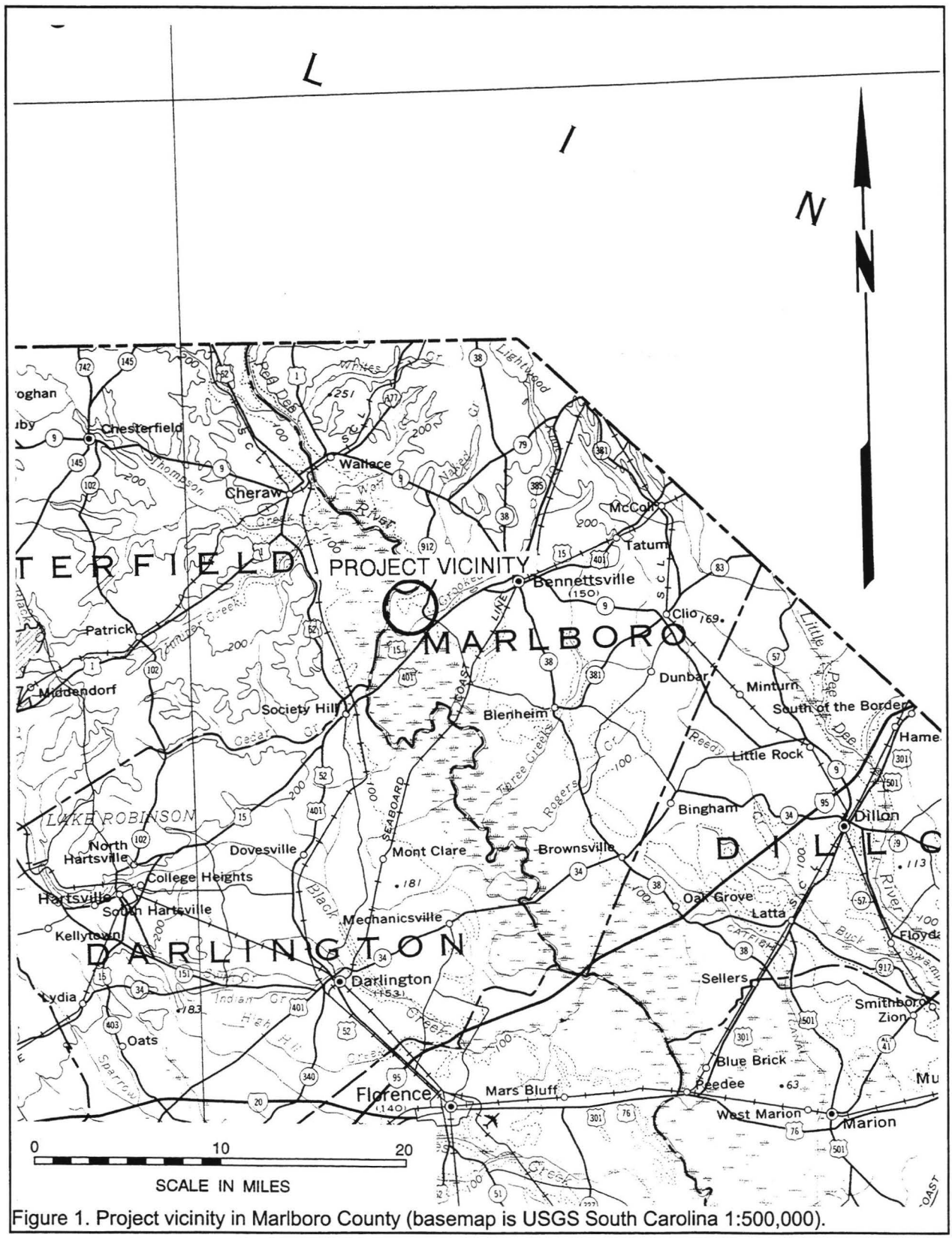

Figure 1. Project vicinity in Marlboro County (basemap is USGS South Carolina 1:500,000).

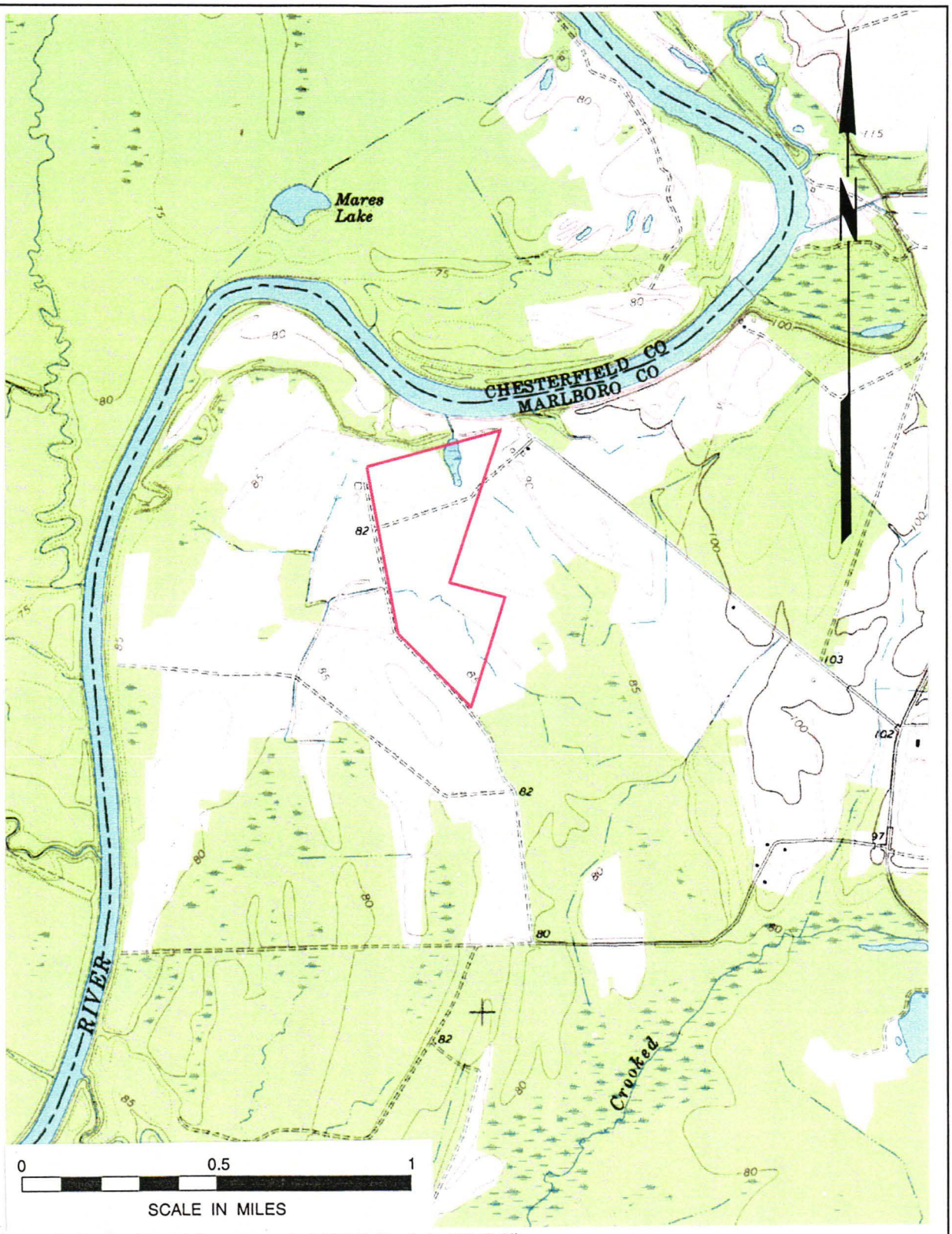

Figure 2. Project tract (basemap is USGS Society Hill 7.5').

National Register of Historic Places.

The architectural survey of the APE, designed to identify any structures over 50 years in age which retain their integrity, revealed no such structures.

Laboratory work and report production was conducted at Chicora's laboratories in Columbia, South Carolina from August 7-9. One archaeological site form for the site identified during this investigation has been filed with the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (SCIAA). The field notes, artifact catalog, and artifacts resulting from these investigations will be curated at SCIAA and will be maintained by that institution in perpetuity. The only photographic materials associated with this project are color prints, which are not archival. The negatives and prints for these photographs are retained by Chicora Foundation.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Physiography and Geology

The survey tract is situated in the Upper Coastal Plain, south of the Fall Line and the Sand Hills found in the northern corner of the County. Elevations in the Upper Coastal Plain range from 100 to 270 feet above mean sea level (AMSL), with the topography being gently rolling. As Kovacik and Winberry (1987:20) observe, it can be very difficult to distinguish the Upper Coastal Plain from that of the Sand Hills or even the lower Piedmont. The flatter, and almost featureless, Coastal Plain topography is found further to the southeast, south of the Citronelle Escarpment (Orangeburg Scarp).

Marlboro County is drained by the Great Pee Dee River. Originating in North Carolina with the confluence of the Yadkin and Uwharrie rivers near Badin, North Carolina, the Pee Dee crosses the Fall Line in northern Marlboro County and begins its slow movement through a wide, swampy flood plain to the Atlantic Ocean.

Mills observed that the county was dominated by the Pee Dee which, "by its meanders washes the district for sixty miles" (Mills 1972 [1826]:632). The river was navigable for almost its entire distance through Marlboro County and much of the bottomland was cultivated. The smaller drainages, such as Crooked Creek, located south of the survey area, "furnish margins of excellent soil; but little of this is yet brought into cultivation (Mills 1972 [1826]:630).

Metamorphic and volcanic rocks of the Carolina Slate Belt outcrop north of the survey area in Anson County, North Carolina and west along the fall line in Lancaster, northern Chesterfield, and Kershaw counties in South Carolina. Mills referred to these areas as the "granite, or primitive formation" (Mills 1972 [1826]:629). The rest of the district, including the survey area, was part of the "alluvial region" where the "light and sandy" soils were underlaid by a "clay bottom" (Mills 1972 [1826]:630). Today we recognize the complex geology of the Upper Coastal Plain where there are bedded sands overlaying kaolinic clays and clayey, quartzose sands (Murphy 1995:93).

Soils

The survey area is situated near the Pee Dee in an area characterized by the Wahee-Leaf-Flint soil association – soils which have developed from sediments from the Piedmont Plateau and the Coastal Plain (Craft 1965).

Figure 3. View of fallow cotton fields.

The survey area consists of three soils series – Congaree fine sandy loams, Wehadkee silt loams, and Cahaba fine sandy loams (Craft 1965). Congaree soils are found most often on the tract and have a surface layer of dark grayish-brown (2.5Y4/2) fine sandy loam to a depth of 0.8 foot over a dark yellowish-brown (10YR4/6) clay loam to a depth of 1.7 feet. These soils are located on the flood plain of the Great Pee Dee River, so are occasionally flooded, but are well drained, making cultivation easier.

Cahaba soils have a dark brown (10YR3/3) sandy loam to a depth of 0.7 foot over a yellowish-red (5YR5/8) sandy clay loam to a depth of over 2.9 feet. These soils are found on the higher terraces along the Great Pee Dee River and are generally well drained (Craft 1965). Found least often on the survey tract, Wehadkee soils have a brown (10YR5/3) silt loam to a depth of 0.7 foot over a dark gray (10YR4/1) silty clay which can occur to a depth of 3.5 feet. This soil is the only one found on the survey tract that is not suitable for cultivation. Much like Congaree soils, Wehadkee soils are located on the floodplain of the Great Pee Dee River, but these soils are poorly drained, making the area even difficult to use for pasture.

Floristics

In the early nineteenth century Mills comments that the river lands – especially those adjacent to the Great Pee Dee – were dominated by "the finest timber trees, composed of the cypress, sycamore, cotton-tree, the various kinds of oak, sweet gum, hickory, chestnut, poplar, bay, and a number of others" (Mills 1972 [1826]:633). In contrast, the uplands were dominated by pines. This situation is largely unchanged today. On the bluffs overlooking the rivers there is a pine-hardwood community dominated by loblolly pine, hickory, and various oaks. On the lower slopes the vegetation is dominated by species tolerant of the wetter conditions, such as white oak, sweet gum, willow oak, and black gum. In the river floodplains there are sweet gum, laurel oak, water hickory, and tupelo (Kovacik and Winberry 1987:45).

The survey area, however, has been extensively altered by modern land-use activities. The area, now fallow, had been used for the cultivation of cotton which was being produced for about 200 years in this area.

Climate

Mills observed that the initial large planters settled on the rivers and swamps and regarded the small interior sand farmers as "a kind of curiosity, and half savage" (Mills 1972 [1826]:634). Eventually they realized that it was those interior sandy areas with good drainage that reduced the risk of malaria and he reported that "the owners and overseers now fly to these very sand hills, as the sickly months approach."

This portion of South Carolina is dominated by the movement of systems across the country, but there are relatively few complete exchanges of air masses in the summer. This results in few breaks in the midsummer heat, with temperatures ranging from the high 80s to the mid-90s. In contrast, winters are mild and relatively short. There are 46 inches of annual precipitation, with over 22 inches falling in the growing season (Craft 1965).

PREHISTORIC AND HISTORIC SYNOPSIS

Previous Research

Marlboro County is not a particularly well studied part of South Carolina. There are, for example, only 14 reports for the county listed by Derting et al. (1991). Of these, nearly two-thirds (n=9) are the result of relatively small, or at least constrained, surveys associated with compliance projects. The remaining five studies include a county-wide historic preservation plan (of virtually no use archaeologically), two studies on the coffin hardware of the Clio General Store in northern Marlboro County, and two studies of the Cheraw or Pee Dee Indians. None of these studies are specific to the area currently being examined.

Prehistory of the Region

The Paleo-Indian period, lasting from 12,000 to 8,000 B.C., is evidenced by basally thinned, side-notched projectile points; fluted, lanceolate projectile points, side scrapers, end scrapers; and drills (Coe 1964; Michie 1977; Williams 1968). The Paleo-Indian occupation, while widespread, does not appear to have been intensive. Artifacts are most frequently found along major river drainages, which Michie interprets to support the concept of an economy "oriented towards the exploitation of now extinct mega-fauna" (Michie 1977:124).

Unfortunately, little is known about Paleo-Indian subsistence strategies, settlement systems, or social organization. Generally, archaeologists agree that the Paleo-Indian groups were at a band level of society (see Service 1966), were nomadic, and were both hunters and foragers. While population density, based on the isolated finds, is thought to have been low, Walthall suggests that toward the end of the period, "there was an increase in population density and in territoriality and that a number of new resource areas were beginning to be exploited" (Walthall 1980:30).

The Archaic period, which dates from 8000 to 2000 B.C., does not form a sharp break with the Paleo-Indian period, but is a slow transition characterized by a modern climate and an increase in the diversity of material culture. Associated with this is a reliance on a broad spectrum of small mammals, although the white tailed deer was likely the most commonly exploited mammal. The chronology established by Coe (1964) for the North Carolina Piedmont may be applied with little modification to the South Carolina coastal plain and piedmont. Archaic period assemblages, exemplified by corner-notched and broad-stem projectile points, are fairly common, perhaps because the swamps and drainages offered especially attractive ecotones.

In the Coastal Plain of the South Carolina there is an increase in the quantity of Early Archaic remains, probably associated with an increase in population and associated increase in the intensity of occupation. While Hardaway and Dalton points are typically found as isolated specimens along riverine environments, remains from the following Palmer phase are not only more common, but are also found in both riverine and interriverine settings. Kirks are likewise common in the coastal plain (Goodyear et al. 1979).

The two primary Middle Archaic phases found in the coastal plain are the Morrow Mountain and Guilford (the Stanly and Halifax complexes identified by Coe are rarely encountered). Our best information on the Middle Woodland comes from sites investigated west of the Appalachian Mountains, such as the work in the Little Tennessee River Valley. The work at Middle Archaic river valley sites, with their evidence of a diverse floral and faunal subsistence base, seems to stand in stark contrast to Caldwell's Middle Archaic "Old Quartz Industry" of Georgia and South Carolina, where axes, choppers, and ground and polished stone tools are very rare.

The Late Archaic is characterized by the

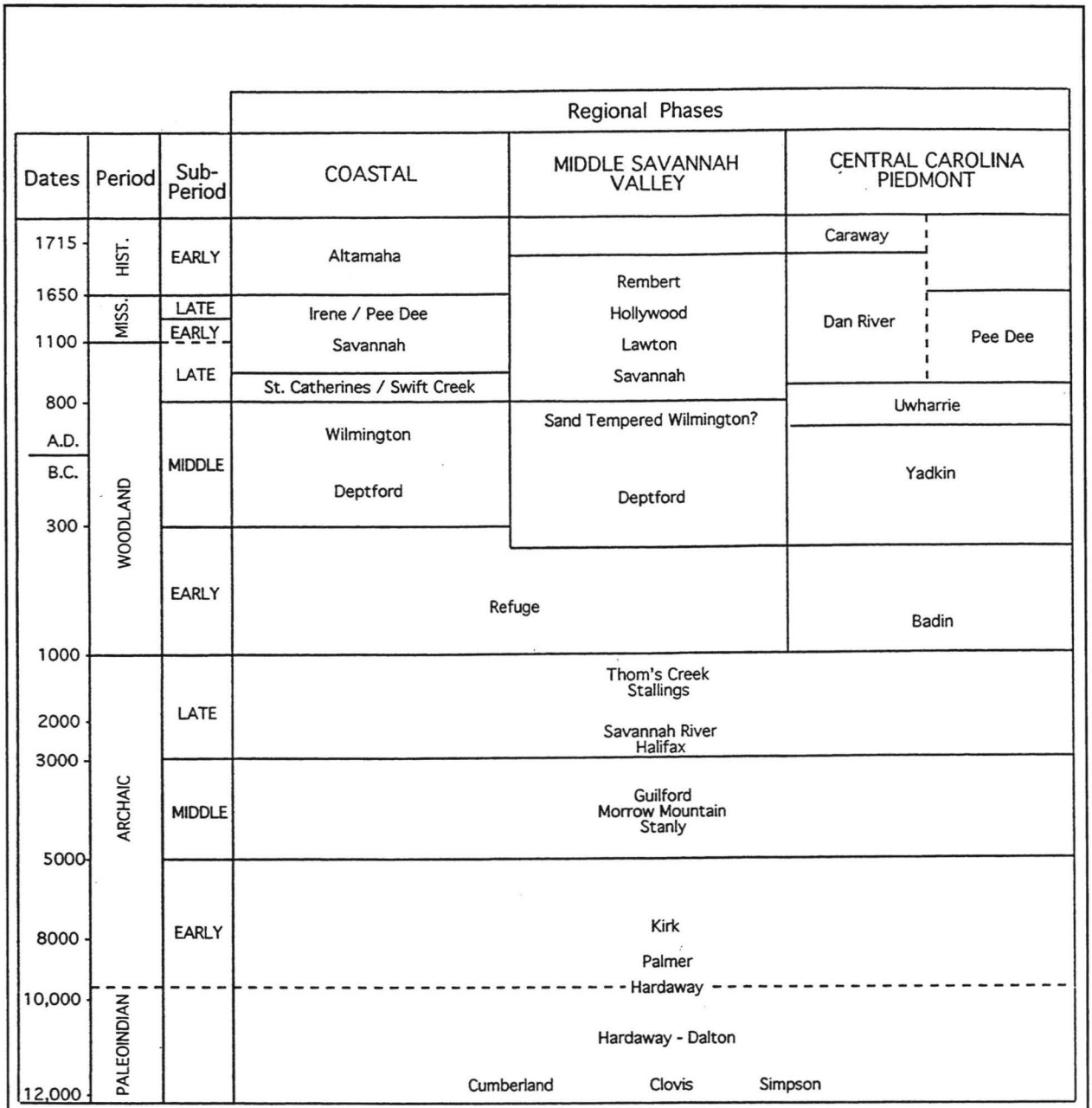

Figure 4. Generalized cultural sequence for South Carolina.

appearance of large, square stemmed Savannah River projectile points (Coe 1964). These people continued the intensive exploitation of the uplands much like earlier Archaic groups. The bulk of our data for this period, however, comes from work in the Uwharrie region of North Carolina.

The Woodland period begins by definition with the introduction of fired clay pottery about 2000 B.C. along the South Carolina coast (the introduction of pottery, and hence the beginning of the Woodland period, occurs much later in the Piedmont of South Carolina). It should be noted that many researchers call the period from about 2500 to 1000 B.C. the Late Archaic because of a perceived continuation of the Archaic lifestyle

inspite of the manufacture of pottery. Regardless of terminology, the period from 2500 to 1000 B.C. is well documented on the South Carolina coast and is characterized by Stallings (fiber-tempered) pottery. The subsistence economy during this early period was based primarily on deer hunting and fishing, with supplemental inclusions of small mammals, birds, reptiles, and shellfish.

Like the Stallings settlement pattern, Thom's Creek sites are found in a variety of environmental zones and take on several forms. Thom's Creek sites are found throughout the South Carolina Coastal Zone, Coastal Plain, and up to the Fall Line. The sites are found into the North Carolina Coastal Plain, but do not appear to extend southward into Georgia.

In the Coastal Plain drainage of the Savannah River there is a change of settlement, and probably subsistence, away from the riverine focus found in the Stallings Phase (Hanson 1982:13; Stoltman 1974:235-236). Thom's Creek sites are more commonly found in the upland areas and lack evidence of intensive shellfish collection. In the Coastal Zone large, irregular shell middens, small, sparse shell middens; and large "shell rings" are found in the Thom's Creek settlement system.

The Deptford phase, which dates from 1100 B.C. to A.D. 600, is best characterized by fine to coarse sandy paste pottery with a check stamped surface treatment. The Deptford settlement pattern involves both coastal and inland sites.

Inland, sites such as 38AK228-W, 38LX5, 38RD60, and 38BM40 indicate the presence of an extensive Deptford occupation on the Fall Line and the Coastal Plain, although sandy, acidic soils preclude statements on the subsistence base (Anderson 1979; Ryan 1972; Trinkley 1980). These interior or upland Deptford sites, however, are strongly associated with the swamp terrace edge, and this environment is productive not only in nut masts, but also in large mammals such as deer. Perhaps the best data concerning Deptford "base camps" comes from the Lewis-West site (38AK228-W), where evidence of abundant food remains, storage pit features, elaborate material culture, mortuary behavior, and craft specialization has been reported (Sassaman et al. 1990:96-98).

Throughout much of the Coastal Zone and Coastal Plain north of Charleston, a somewhat different cultural manifestation is observed, related to the "Northern Tradition" (e.g., Caldwell 1958). This recently identified assemblage has been termed Deep Creek and was first identified from northern North Carolina sites (Phelps 1983). The Deep Creek assemblage is characterized by pottery with medium to coarse sand inclusions and surface treatments of cord marking, fabric impressing, simple stamping, and net impressing. Much of this material has been previously designated as the Middle Woodland "Cape Fear" pottery originally typed by South (1976). The Deep Creek wares date from about 1000 B.C. to A.D. 1 in North Carolina, but may date later in South Carolina. The Deep Creek settlement and subsistence systems are poorly known, but appear to be very similar to those identified with the Deptford phase.

The Deep Creek assemblage strongly resembles Deptford both typologically and temporally. It appears this northern tradition of cord and fabric impressions was introduced and gradually accepted by indigenous South Carolina populations. During this time some groups continued making only the older carved paddle-stamped pottery, while others mixed the two styles, and still others (and later all) made exclusively cord and fabric stamped wares.

The Middle Woodland in South Carolina is characterized by a pattern of settlement mobility and short-term occupation. On the southern coast it is associated with the Wilmington phase, while on the northern coast it is recognized by the presence of Hanover, McClellanville or Santee, and Mount Pleasant assemblages. The best data concerning Middle Woodland Coastal Zone assemblages comes from Phelps' (1983:32-33) work in North Carolina. Associated items include a small variety of the Roanoke Large Triangular points (Coe 1964:110-111), sandstone abraders, shell pendants, polished stone gorgets, celts, and woven marsh mats. Significantly, both primary inhumations and cremations are found.

On the Coastal Plain of South Carolina, researchers are finding evidence of a Middle

Woodland Yadkin assemblage, best known from Coe's work at the Doerschuk site in North Carolina (Coe 1964:25-26). Yadkin pottery is characterized by a crushed quartz temper and cord marked, fabric impressed, and linear check stamped surface treatments. The Yadkin ceramics are associated with medium-sized triangular points, although Oliver (1981) suggests that a continuation of the Piedmont Stemmed Tradition to at least A.D. 300 coexisted with this Triangular Tradition. The Yadkin series in South Carolina was first observed by Ward (1978, 1983) from the White's Creek drainage in Marlboro County, South Carolina. Since then, a large Yadkin village has been identified by DePratter at the Dunlap site (38DA66) in Darlington County, South Carolina (Chester DePratter, personal communication 1985) and Blanton et al. (1986) have excavated a small Yadkin site (38SU83) in Sumter County, South Carolina. Research at 38FL249 on the Roche Carolina tract in northern Florence County revealed an assemblage including Badin, Yadkin, and Wilmington wares (Trinkley et al. 1993:85-102). Anderson et al. (1982:299-302) offer additional typological assessments of the Yadkin wares in South Carolina.

Over the years the suggestion that Cape Fear might be replaced by such types as Deep Creek and Mount Pleasant has raised considerable controversy. Taylor, for example, rejects the use of the North Carolina types in favor of those developed by Anderson et al. (1982) from their work at Mattassee Lake in Berkeley County (Taylor 1984:80). Cable (1991) is even less generous in his denouncement of ceramic constructs developed nearly a decade ago, also favoring adoption of the Mattassee Lake typology and chronology. This construct, recognizing five phases (Deptford I - III, McClellanville, and Santee I), uses a type variety system.

Regardless of terminology, these Middle Woodland Coastal Plain and Coastal Zone phases continue the Early Woodland Deptford pattern of mobility. While sites are found all along the coast and inland to the Fall Line, shell midden sites evidence sparse shell and artifacts. Gone are the abundant shell tools, worked bone items, and clay balls. Recent investigations at Coastal Zone sites such as 38BU747 and 38BU1214, however, have provided some evidence of worked bone and shell items at Deptford phase middens (see Trinkley 1990).

In many respects the South Carolina Late Woodland may be characterized as a continuation of previous Middle Woodland cultural assemblages. While outside the Carolinas there were major cultural changes, such as the continued development and elaboration of agriculture, the Carolina groups settled into a lifeway not appreciably different from that observed for the previous 500 to 700 years (cf. Sassaman et al. 1990:14-15). This situation would remain unchanged until the development of the South Appalachian Mississippian complex (see Ferguson 1971).

The South Appalachian Mississippian Period (ca. A.D. 1100 to 1640) is the most elaborate level of culture attained by the native inhabitants and is followed by cultural disintegration brought about largely by European disease. The period is characterized by complicated stamped pottery, complex social organization, agriculture, and the construction of temple mounds and ceremonial centers. The earliest phases include the Savannah and Pee Dee (A.D. 1200 to 1550).

Historic Overview

The early history of Marlboro was succinctly presented by Mills:

> Soon after Braddock's defeat [reference to General Edward Braddock and his disastrous defeat in the Ohio Valley at the hands of the French] the frontier inhabitants of Virginia and Pennsylvania began to move southwardly; and this section of the state was settled by a few of them. The progress of population was slow previous to the Indian treaty, in 1755; after which it began to increase; but received several checks, until the close of the revolutionary war, when a considerable accession took place (Mills 1972 [1826]:629).

Much of this early settlement occurred in the area called Welsh Neck or Tract. Not strictly a township, a large portion, from Crooked Creek to Hunt's Bluff, had been granted in small parcels by 1746 to such individuals as Daniel Lewis, Samuel Wilds, and Daniel James. These, and other Welch, came largely from Pennsylvania, attracted by the possibility of plants and crops such as hemp, flax, wheat, and barley (Wallace 1951:155).

McColl remarked that the first court house, built about 1787, was located near the Pee Dee River:

> very near the road to Gardner's Bluff, not very far from the river and very close to the present cross roads leading from Bennettsville to Gardner's Bluff and from Evans' or Matheson's Mill to Cheraw (McColl n.d.:78).

Mills also notes that the court house was built close to the banks of Crooked Creek and remarked that:

> there was built there three or four stores, and five or six dwelling houses, but no tavern. The village was called Winfieldsville (Mills 1972 [1826]:631).

Mills also observed that the earliest settlements were consistently located along the Pee Dee River, an area thought, at the time, to be healthy. In fact, "the inhabitant of the sandy interior was deemed, upon the river, a king of curiosity, and half savage" (Mills 1972 [1826]:634). As the years passed, however, the planters began moving inland, into the sand hills, to get away from the swamps and the associated fevers and miasmas. Consequently, the court house was moved to its current location in Bennettsville in 1818. A brick court house and jail were erected in 1821 (rebuilt in 1852, 1885, and 1952). Bennettsville, named for Governor Thomas Bennett (1820-1822), remained a sleepy, small town until after the Civil War.

One author remarked that:

> Prior to the war the citizens of the sand hill section did but little in an agricultural way, and their main industry was the raising of cattle and hogs, which roamed at large through the extensive forests (Gibson 1902:5).

Where agriculture was practiced, it is clear from Mills that it was of the most ruthless kind:

> the same ruinous system of cultivation practiced in other places is prevalent here. One piece of land after another is exhausted, and abandoned; nothing like farming; no husbandry of the natural advantages of the soil; forest after forest is felled, and reduced to ashes, without regard to the consequences of such waste (Mills 1972 [1826]:637).

Mills' *Atlas* of 1825 (Figure 5) shows no

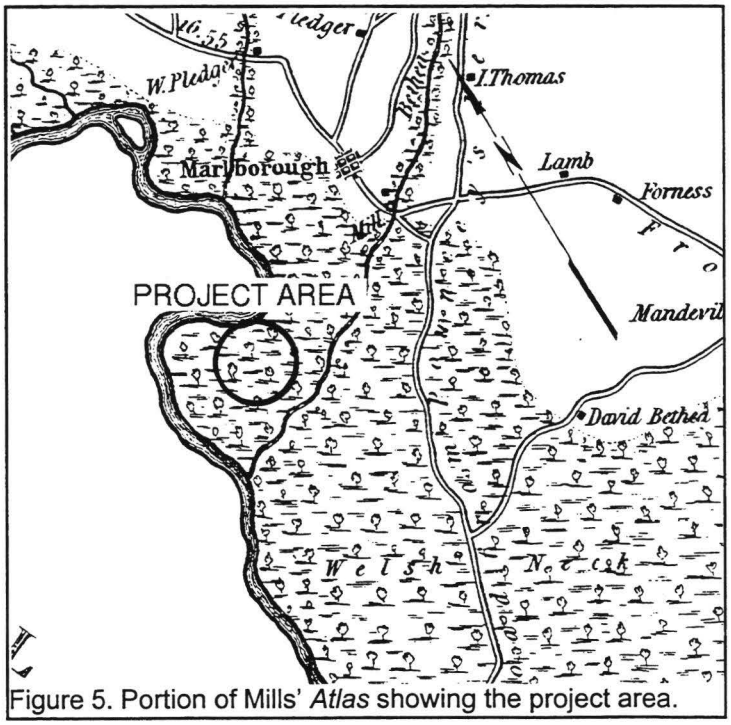

Figure 5. Portion of Mills' *Atlas* showing the project area.

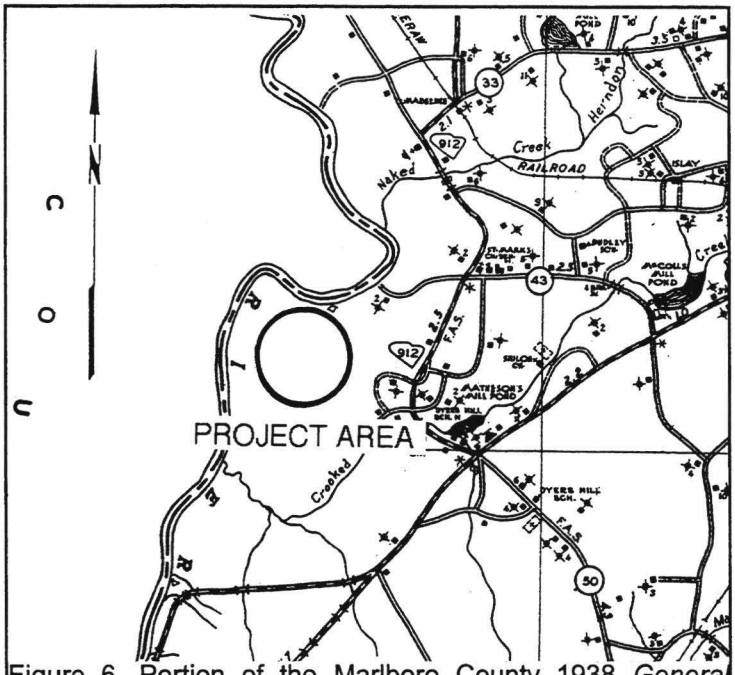

Figure 6. Portion of the Marlboro County 1938 *General Highway and Transportation Map.*

settlement in the survey area, but instead shows most of the area under cultivation, most likely of cotton.

Prior to the Civil War many areas of Marlboro District became well known for their extensive mills, including those of General Thomas, Major Robinson, and Major Pledger (Mills 1972 [1826]:632). About five miles north of Bennettsville Mr. Meekins Townsend built a water powered cotton mill on Crooked Creek. Gibson notes that, "a beautiful factory village occupied the high sandy level ridge east of the mill, " and that the mill burned shortly before the Civil War (Gibson 1902:16).

In 1850, on the verge of the Civil War, Marlboro County was about evenly divided between whites and African American slaves (5033 to 5600). With 621 farms, only six counties had a smaller agricultural base. In spite of this, Marlboro ranked 16th in cotton production, with 9501 bales. Other significant crops included Indian corn and wheat (DeBow 1854:304-305).

The Civil War was not particularly kind to Marlboro. Sherman's army passed through the county on its way from Columbia, South Carolina to Fayetteville, North Carolina. Nearly all the ginneries, some of the mills, and many of the residences were destroyed. Sherman and Howard both had their camps along Crooked Creek, in the vicinity of Goodwin's Upper and Lower Mills.

Like elsewhere in South Carolina the economy of Marlboro County was essentially destroyed. Renting and wage labor were the most common forms of black farm labor as late as 1884, although there were about 100 farms comprising 3000 acres owned by blacks (compared to about 6000 acres in 200 farms owned by whites) (Anonymous 1884). Significantly, 200 gins, 44 lumber mills, and 16 flour or grist mills were in operation only 20 years after the Civil War.

Col. C.S. McColl established a thriving mercantile business in the 1870s and eventually owned at least nine plantations, including Appin, Dundee, Steward, Islay, Pipkin, Cook, Ervin, Spears, and Cotton Hill. Described as a "100 plow" farm, as late as 1901 he planted 1600 acres in cotton, 600 acres in corn, and 300 acres in wheat and oats. He produced over 1000 bales of cotton a year and 1100 pounds of cotton seed per acre. Gibson remarks:

> his mill . . . is only 2½ miles west of town, on Crooked Creek, very fine water power, splendid ginnery and corn mill. The pond is well stocked with fish and the numerous ducks afford exhilarating and enjoyable sport (Gibson 1902:7).

McColl's amalgamation of plantations, however, was unusual and most agriculture was conducted by "two, three, or four plows," where the farms are small and largely worked only their owner (Gibson 1902:7).

The number of Marlboro farms operated by owners declined from 818 in 1900 to 697 in 1910 and 454 by 1930. Through this period the number of acres of cotton remained steady between 86,000 and 82,000 acres, although the

yields fell dramatically from over 74,000 bales to less than 34,000 bales (Thirteenth Census of the United States: 1010 and Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930).

The 1938 *General Highway and Transportation Map of Marlboro County* (Figure 6) reveals no structures within the survey area. The area was still being cultivated at that time.

METHODS

Archaeological Field Methods

The initially proposed field techniques involved the placement of shovel tests at 100-foot intervals along transects placed at 100-foot intervals.

All soil would be screened through ¼-inch mesh, with each test numbered sequentially by transect. Each test would measure about 1 foot square and would normally be taken to a depth of at least 1.0 foot or until subsoil was encountered. All cultural remains would be collected, except for mortar and brick, which would be quantitatively noted in the field and discarded. Notes would be maintained for profiles at any sites encountered.

Should sites (defined by the presence of three or more artifacts from either surface survey or shovel tests within a 50 feet area) be identified, further tests would be used to obtain data on site boundaries, artifact quantity and diversity, site integrity, and temporal affiliation. These tests would be placed at 25 to 50 feet intervals in a simple cruciform pattern until two consecutive negative shovel tests were encountered. The information required for completion of South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology site forms would be collected and photographs would be taken, if warranted in the opinion of the field investigators.

These proposed techniques were implemented with no significant modifications. As previously reported, the survey area was located mostly on a fallow fields, so along with shovel testing, a pedestrian survey was also performed. Nevertheless, the project area was clearly defined by woods lines.

The GPS positions were taken with a Garmin GPS 12XL rover that tracks up to twelve satellites, each with a separate channel that is continuously being read. The benefit of parallel channel receivers is their improved sensitivity and ability to obtain and hold a satellite lock in difficult situations, such as in forests or urban environments where signal obstruction is a frequent problem. This was not a vital concern for the study area.

GPS accuracy is generally affected by a number of sources of potential error, including errors with satellite clocks, multipathing, and selective availability. Satellite clock errors can occur when the satellites' clock is off by as little as a millisecond, or when a slightly-askew orbit results in a distance error. Multipathing occurs when the signal bounces off trees, chain-link fences, or bodies of water. Multipathing was probably not a significant source of error for this study since the site area was clear and our reading was taken in the center of the site. The source of most extreme GPS errors is selective availability (SA), the deliberate mistiming of satellite signals by the Department of Defense. This degradation results in horizontal errors of up to 100 m 95% of the time, although the error may be as much as 300 m. Nevertheless, selective availability has been turned off by the DOD. We have previously determined the 3D[1] and DGPS readings with the Garmin 12XL were identical. Therefore, we relied on 3D navigation mode, with expected potential horizontal errors of 6 m or less.

Architectural Survey

As previously discussed, we elected to use a 1.0 mile area of potential effect (APE). The architectural survey would record buildings, sites, structures, and objects which appeared to have been constructed before 1950. Typical of such projects, this survey recorded only those which "retain some measure of its historic integrity"

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[1]A basic requirement for GPS position accuracy is having a lock on at least four satellites, which places the receiver in 3D mode. This is critical – as an example, positions calculated with less than four satellites can have horizontal errors in excess of a mile, or over 1,600 m.

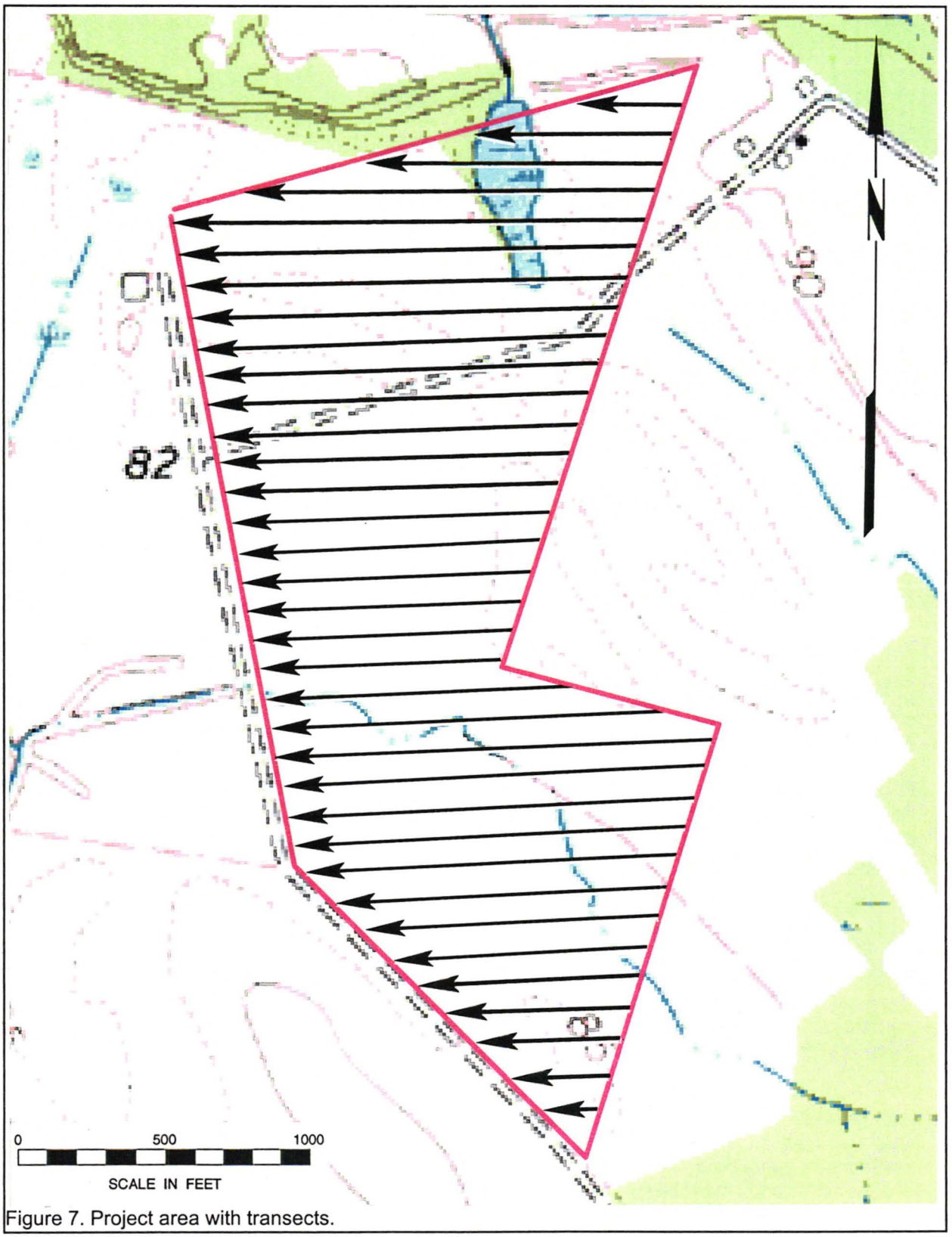

Figure 7. Project area with transects.

(Vivian n.d.:5) and which were visible from public roads.

For each identified resource we would complete a Statewide Survey Site Form and at least two representative photographs were taken. Permanent control numbers would be assigned by the Survey Staff of the S.C. Department of Archives and History at the conclusion of the study. The Site Forms for the resources identified during this study would be submitted to the S.C. Department of Archives and History.

Site Evaluation

Archaeological sites will be evaluated for further work based on the eligibility criteria for the National Register of Historic Places. Chicora Foundation only provides an opinion of National Register eligibility and the final determination is made by the lead federal agency, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

The criteria for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places is described by 36CFR60.4, which states:

> the quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and
>
> a. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
>
> b. that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
>
> c. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
>
> d. that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

National Register Bulletin 36 (Townsend et al. 1993) provides an evaluative process that contains five steps for forming a clearly defined explicit rationale for either the site's eligibility or lack of eligibility. Briefly, these steps are:

- identification of the site's data sets or categories of archaeological information such as ceramics, lithics, subsistence remains, architectural remains, or sub-surface features;
- identification of the historic context applicable to the site, providing a framework for the evaluative process;
- identification of the important research questions the site might be able to address, given the data sets and the context;
- evaluation of the site's archaeological integrity to ensure that the data sets were sufficiently well preserved to address the research questions; and
- identification of important research questions among all of those which might be asked and answered at the site.

This approach, of course, has been developed for use documenting eligibility of sites being actually nominated to the National Register of Historic Places where the evaluative process must stand alone, with relatively little reference to

other documentation and where typically only one site is being considered. As a result, some aspects of the evaluative process have been summarized, but we have tried to focus on an archaeological site's ability to address significant research topics within the context of its available data sets.

For architectural sites the evaluative process was somewhat different. Given the relatively limited architectural data available for most of the properties, we focus on evaluating these sites using National Register Criterion C, looking at the site's "distinctive characteristics." Key to this concept is the issue of integrity. This means that the property needs to have retained, essentially intact, its physical identity from the historic period.

Particular attention would be given to the integrity of design, workmanship, and materials. Design includes the organization of space, proportion, scale, technology, ornamentation, and materials. As *National Register Bulletin* 36 observes, "Recognizability of a property, or the ability of a property to convey its significance, depends largely upon the degree to which the design of the property is intact" (Townsend et al. 1993:18). Workmanship is evidence of the artisan's labor and skill and can apply to either the entire property or to specific features of the property. Finally, materials — the physical items used on and in the property — are "of paramount importance under Criterion C" (Townsend et al. 1993:19). Integrity here is reflected by maintenance of the original material and avoidance of replacement materials.

Laboratory Analysis

The cleaning and analysis of artifacts was conducted in Columbia at the Chicora Foundation laboratories. These materials have been catalogued and accessioned for curation at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, the closest regional repository. The site form for the identified archaeological site has been filed with the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. Field notes and photographic materials have been prepared for curation using archival standards and will be transferred to that agency as soon as the project is complete.

Analysis of the collections followed professionally accepted standard with a level of intensity suitable to the quantity and quality of the remains. In general, the temporal, cultural, and typological classifications of historic remains follow such authors as Price (1970) and South (1977).

RESULTS OF SURVEY

Introduction

As a result of this cultural resources survey one site (38ML279) was identified. The site is recommended not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places due to lack of integrity and the inability to answer research questions.

The architectural survey identified no sites which would individually be eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

Archaeological Resources

38ML279

Site 38ML279 is a surface and subsurface scatter of prehistoric lithics and historic ceramics (Figure 8) It is situated on a ridge at an elevation of about 85 feet AMSL. The site is located just south of the Great Pee Dee River. Topography in the immediate area is relatively level.

Typical vegetation in the area includes hardwoods, but almost the entire survey area, including the site, is situated in a fallow field. The area had been recently mowed of the undergrowth allowing a 100% surface visibility. The soil identified at the site is Congaree fine sandy loam which has a surface layer of dark grayish-brown (2.5Y4/2) fine sandy loam to a depth of 0.8 foot over a dark yellowish-brown (10YR4/6) clay loam to a depth of 1.7 feet (Craft 1965).

A central UTM coordinate for the site is E610350 N3829549 (NAD27 datum). The site is accessible from S-912, through the currently operating Weyerhaeuser Marlboro Mill.

Shovel tests were completed at 100-foot intervals with Transect 7, Shovel Test 16 (N200 E100) producing a piece of olive glass and a metavolcanic biface fragement. Shovel tests were then performed along the cardinal directions at 50-foot intervals until two consecutive tests were found. A total of 13 shovel tests were excavated in the site area with only four (31%) positive. Testing to the west of the site area could not be performed due to the property boundary, but it is likely that it extends beyond our current scope of research.

The other three tests also produced undiagnostic historic and prehistoric artifacts including a quartz flake (N250E100), a quartz

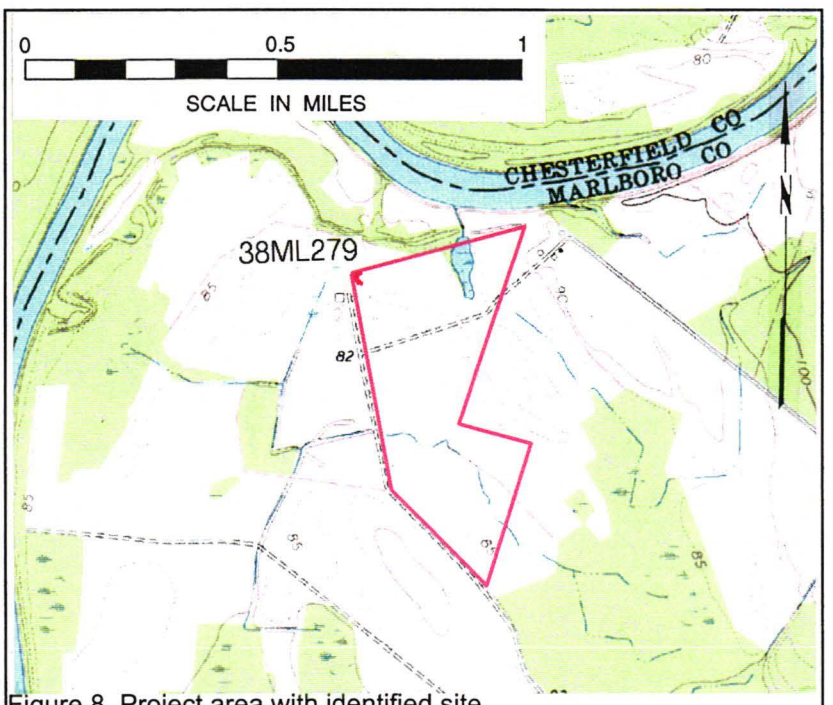

Figure 8. Project area with identified site.

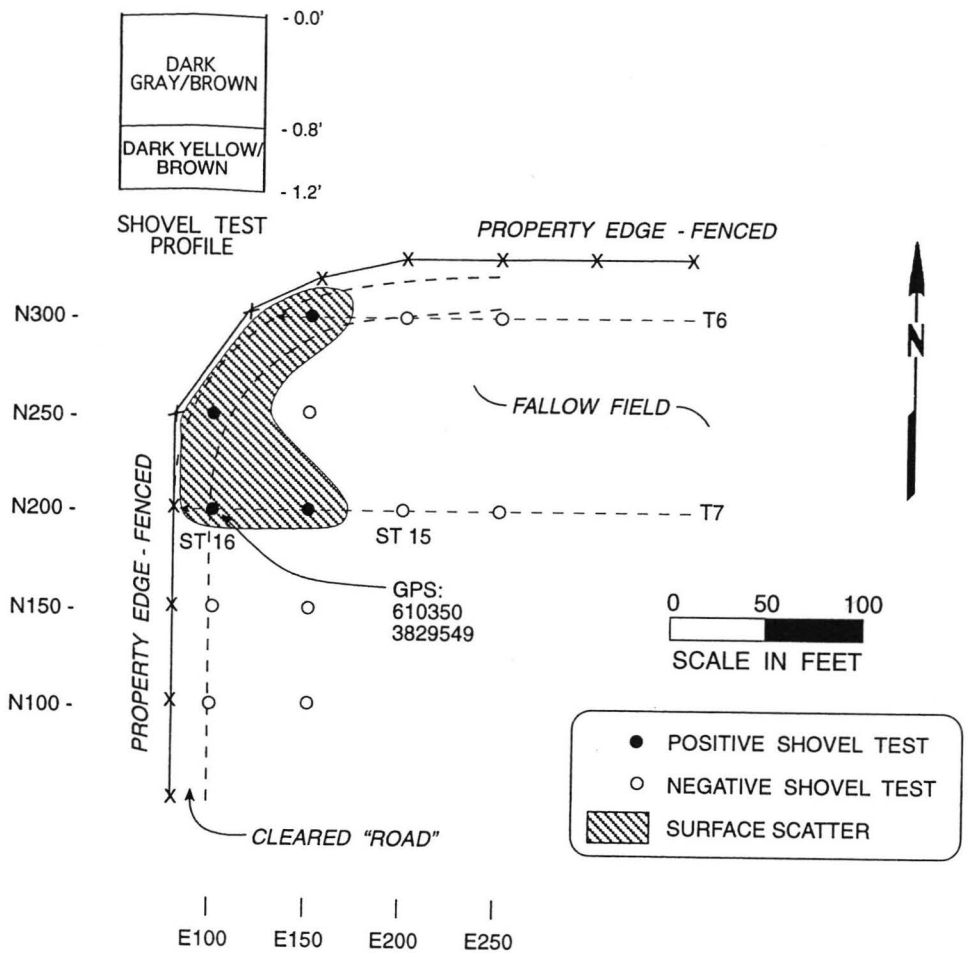

Figure 9. Sketch map and soil profile for 38ML279.

Figure 10. View of site 38ML279 in a fallow field.

flake and a metavolcanic flake (N300E150), and a metavolcanic flake (N200E150). The surface collection revealed four pieces of undecorated whiteware. The estimated site dimensions are 100 feet by 50 feet, although more artifacts may be found beyond the project boundary. The 1971 topographic map of the area (see Figure 8) shows an uninhabited structure, possibly a barn, next to the site. It is possible that the historic remains are connected with this structure.

The National Register potential of the site is contingent on several factors such as the data sets present, site integrity, and the ability to address significant research questions. Although both historic and prehistoric components were found, the total number of artifacts (n=9) is very low and offers little potential to address even the most fundamental research questions, such as site function and periods of occupation. Moreover, the only data sets present are these few artifacts. We found no indication of other data sources, such as features or remnant architectural remains. Due to years of cultivation, the site integrity has been severely damaged.

Due to the failure to recover additional and more varied remains along with the extensive cultivation, we recommend this site not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. No additional management activities are recommended pending the review of the State Historic Preservation Office.

Historic and Architectural Resources

An examination of the APE found no sites that appeared to be eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. Just outside the APE is the former location of the Marlborough Courthouse (38ML24) which is potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The

Figure 11. View of stone erected at the old Courthouse site.

area, now designated with a marker, is far enough from the survey area that it will not be affected by the construction activities.

CONCLUSIONS

This study involved the examination of approximately 87 acres of land for the proposed Weyerhaeuser Marlboro Mill Effluent Holding Basin. The project area is located in the western portion of Marlboro County, west of the town of Bennettsville. This work, conducted for RMT, Inc., whose client is the Weyerhaeuser Mill, examined archaeological sites and cultural resources found on the proposed project area and is intended to assist this organization in complying with their historic preservation responsibilities.

As a result of this investigation, one archaeological site, 38ML279, was identified. This site contains both prehistoric and historic artifacts although no diagnostic remains are present (the whiteware has a very broad date range). Intensive cultivation of the area has severely damaged the integrity of the site and it is highly unlikely that any research questions will be answered. This site is recommended not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

A survey of historic sites was conducted within a 1.0 mile APE. No sites were found that would be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

It is possible that archaeological remains may be encountered during construction activities. As always, contractors should be advised to report any discoveries of concentrations of artifacts (such as bottles, ceramics, or projectile points) or brick rubble to the project engineer, who should in turn report the material to the State Historic Preservation Office, or Chicora Foundation (the process of dealing with late discoveries is discussed in 36CFR800.13(b)(3)). No further land altering activities should take place in the vicinity of these discoveries until they have been examined by an archaeologist and, if necessary, have been processed according to 36CFR800.13(b)(3).

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